

Doing a disservice:
The Ku Klux Klan shows its true colors, 4

Small wonder: Five students and their robot, 3



High: 70° / Low: 50°

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Mustang

DAILY

Tuesday, April 17, 2001

Volume LXV, Number 115, 1916-2001

Krebs trial moves on to penalty

By Janelle Foskett
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The penalty phase in the Rex Allan Krebs trial begins today as prosecutors try to convince a Monterey jury that Krebs deserves the death penalty after kidnapping, raping and murdering two female San Luis Obispo college students.

Krebs was convicted April 2 of all nine felony charges and six special circumstances involved in the murders of 20-year-old Cal Poly student Rachel Newhouse and 20-year-old Cuesta College student Aundria Crawford. Because Krebs was convicted of special circumstances, he is eligible for the death penalty.

The same nine-woman, three-man jury that convicted Krebs will now hear new information from defense attorneys, who plan to call approximately 35 witnesses in the penalty phase. In total, 70 witnesses are on call to testify in this phase, which is expected to last two to four weeks.

Krebs can either receive a sentence to death by legal injection or a sentence to life in prison without the chance for parole. If he receives a death sentence, he will be moved to San Quentin State Penitentiary, north of San Francisco. All of California's 572 male death row inmates are housed at San Quentin.

Defense attorneys had conceded in the trial's opening statements that Krebs had confessed to the crimes. They say, however, that when Krebs was only 14 years old, he developed sexual fantasies about raping his mother, whom Krebs resented for leaving him with an abusive father.

Defense attorneys will try to spare Krebs life by showing that this abuse is

see **KREBS**, page 2

Arson suspected in local church fire

By Kat DeBakker
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER



AARON LAMBERT/MUSTANG DAILY

Dottie Andoli helps clean up the site of the fire that destroyed the United Methodist Church of San Luis Obispo Sunday morning. The cause of the fire is still under investigation, but arson is suspected.

A fire that destroyed the United Methodist Church of San Luis Obispo early Sunday morning is being investigated as a crime, according to Capt. Bart Topham of the San Luis Obispo police department.

Evidence indicating arson was found at the scene but the police department is unable to disclose what that evidence is, Topham said. The 40-year-old building at 1515 Fredericks St. is estimated to be a total loss.

"We're not going to speculate on suspects but we can pin down the time between 4:30 and 4:50 a.m.," Topham said.

Topham couldn't comment on the correlation between the fire and its occurrence on Easter Sunday, but said the police department was "very concerned about the timing of the fire."

Janice Somers, trustees chair of the church, said the church was dedicated and had its very first services on April 15, 1962, exactly 39 years to the day of the fire.

Detectives, fire investigators and the FBI are all investigating the cause of the fire, Topham said.

Fifty firefighters and support personnel from San Luis Obispo and CDF/County fire battled for more than three hours before gaining control of the fire, according to a city press release.

"The fire completely destroyed the sanctuary," Somers said. "We were able to save the choir music, choir robes and ministers' robes

see **FIRE**, page 2

Poly celebrates liberal arts

By Adam Jarman
MUSTANG DAILY EDITOR IN CHIEF

The College of Liberal Arts is rising out of Cal Poly's cloud of technology and engineering this week.

Liberal Arts Week kicked off Monday with the first in a faculty lecture series when philosophy professor Larry Houlgate presented "Whose Embryo? Divorce Custody Disputes, Frozen Embryos and Procreative Rights."

College of Liberal Arts Associate Dean Susan Currier said the week is designed to showcase departments and to allow students to be proud of their college on a technically based campus.

"At a university the size of Cal Poly, it's important for students to be able to belong to small communities as well as the university as a whole," Currier said. "The college is a community to belong to."

She said that a traditional part of the

Liberal Arts Week is Wednesday's awards ceremony. Currier said this event honors the college's teacher, student and club of the year. The reception will be Wednesday at 6 p.m. on the Cal Poly Theatre patio.

Harry Hellenbrand, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said the college council is responsible for adding events to this year's Liberal Arts Week.

"The council really sort of got on top of it," he said.

Hellenbrand said the College of Liberal Arts is different from others in that the department-related activities such as the bands, television and radio stations are more visible than the clubs.

"Our clubs are not where most of the action is," he said.

Angie Hacker, College of Liberal Arts representative to the Associated Students Inc. Board of Directors, said today's faculty auction will be a fun event for both students and faculty.

"It's a way for students and faculty to

just kind of have fun together," she said.

The auction will be this morning at 11 at the University Union Stage. Hacker said professors will auction off a variety of things, ranging from dinners to car washes, as well as memorabilia.

The activities are designed to merge with Open House this coming weekend, Currier said.

"Liberal Arts Week just leads into Open House as far as we are concerned," she said, commenting that the celebration has traditionally been the week before Open House. She said the week is especially timely this year because of the Centennial Celebration.

"As the week progresses, we bring in a lot of people from the outside," Hellenbrand said.

This year's week is different than those of past years, Currier said.

"There are more faculty lectures this year than in the past," she said, adding

see **LIBERAL ARTS**, page 2

Philosophy colloquium opportunity for discussion

By Michelle Hatfield
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The philosophy department's second annual spring quarter colloquium will give the community an opportunity to exchange views with professors about their research.

The colloquium will be Wednesday and Thursday and will consist of five philosophy professors talking about research they have worked on or are working on currently. The presentations are free and open to the public.

"The point of the colloquium is to highlight research that our faculty is working on," said Linda Bomstad, philosophy department chair. "It allows us to study philosophy at a much more technical level."

Professor Francisco Flores will start the series Wednesday at 9:10 a.m. with a presentation titled "A Time for Change: General Relativity and the

Metaphysics of Time."

Flores said his speech will be about the concept of time.

"I hoped that I could expose students to the most interesting concepts of contemporary physics," he said.

At 10:40 a.m., lecturer Rachel Fern, will talk about sexual objectification. Her speech is called "Kantian Sex, Feminist Slogans and Sexual Objectification."

Bomstad said Fern's topic concerns many college students today.

"Sexual objectification is important to young men and women because this is the time when they are developing views on sexuality," she said.

Thursday begins at 9:30 a.m. with professor Judy Saltzman's presentation, "Centennial and Millennium: The Hidden Meaning of Cycles."

Professor Simon Evnine starts his

see **PHILOSOPHY**, page 2

daily dose

TODAY'S SUN

Rise: 6:27 a.m. / Set: 7:38 p.m.

TODAY'S MOON

Rise: 3:37 a.m. / Set: 2:10 p.m.

TODAY'S TIDE

AT PORT SAN LUIS

Low: 1:07 a.m. / 2.54 feet

High: 6:31 a.m. / 4.04 feet

Low: 1:34 p.m. / 0.19 feet

High: 8:26 p.m. / 3.95 feet

5-DAY FORECAST



TUESDAY

High: 70° / Low: 50°



WEDNESDAY

High: 72° / Low: 47°



THURSDAY

High: 63° / Low: 43°



FRIDAY

High: 60° / Low: 42°



SATURDAY

High: 61° / Low: 41°

KREBS

continued from page 1

what led him to these bizarre fantasies, and when combined with alcohol, what led him to murder.

Prosecutors will try to show that Krebs is a repeat offender who deserves death for the crimes he confessed to committing against the two young women.

FIRE

continued from page 1

from the lower part of the building, but many things were lost that had a lot of sentimental value."

Among the lost items was a bell that was at least 100 years old and came from another church that was built in the 1800s, said Somers.

The church contained an operating fire alarm system but was not protected by fire sprinklers, according to the press release. The building was constructed prior to the city's ordinance requiring sprinklers.

"I really want to compliment the fire and police departments for being there," Somers said. "They did everything they could to save it. I've been very impressed at the community outpour."

Concerned city residents and neighbors watched Monday afternoon as construction workers and church volunteers separated soot-covered hymnals and other salvageable items from the rubble.

"We saw (the fire) on the news this morning and couldn't believe it," said Byrle Schoepf, a city resident. "I've been in the church a few times. Those stained-glass windows were really something."

The church is insured and will be rebuilt, Somers said, but is being torn down due to health and safety issues. Services will still be held Sunday mornings at 10 in the social hall in the parking lot below the church.

"If anyone wants to do anything to help, they can keep us in their prayers or they can make a cash donation," Somers said.

A fund for the church has been set up at Mid-State bank on Broad Street, account #0727518821.

LIBERAL ARTS

continued from page 1

that there are four lectures opposed to just one.

"What makes liberal arts so strong is the quality of the teachers that we have," Hellenbrand said. The lectures highlight that quality, he added.

The first of those was Houlgate's Monday night presentation. The remaining lectures are: "From the Chumash to the Chancellor: The History and Use of Cal Poly Land," presented by Steven Marx and Alison Preston today at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center Pavilion; "From the Mission to the Plaza ... The Music of Early California," presented by Craig Russell Wednesday at 7 p.m. in room 124 of the Performing Arts Center; and "Mexican Cuisine: Food as Culture," presented by Victor Valle Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center Pavilion.

Admission is free to all faculty lectures.

A career forum will be held Saturday from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Performing Arts Center, room 124.

Hacker said that five recent alumni

will offer their experiences, showing that liberal arts students have a wide variety of options. She said that it will be a good event for current students, not just those visiting for Open House.

"I am hoping that students here will go, too," Hacker said.

Currier said this panel is important because students are often concerned about the career options available to liberal arts students, where majors may not be industry-specific.

PHILOSOPHY

continued from page 1

speech, "Belief and Tolerance," at 11:10 a.m. His focus will be on the importance of tolerance in societies that value differing opinions.

At 1:30 p.m. professor Walter Bethel will discuss "Agent Causation and Property Dualism."

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Students take senior project to TLC's 'Robotica'

By Whitney Kellogg
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

A tired, hungry team, bloody injuries and a struggle to be the best – it may sound like an episode of "Survivor," but it's not. For five Cal Poly engineering students last quarter, it was a senior project.

The team designed and built a robot for The Learning Channel's (TLC) televised robot competition, "Robotica," which premiered this month. Despite their confidence in the machine, its performance did not meet their expectations.

"For (the team), it was really awful," said Nicole Lowe, business senior and team spokeswoman. "Everything that could go wrong did."

"Robotica" is based on Comedy Central Sport's "BattleBots," a weekly robot fighting show. TLC's version focuses on the technical aspects of robot design.

Last quarter, TLC sent an e-mail to the mechanical engineering department inviting students to apply for the show's first season. Dave Django Dexter, mechanical engineering senior, took the challenge and recruited three mechanical and one electrical engineering students to work with him.

"We wanted a diverse crowd," said Aaron Wiener, "Robotica" segment producer. "We liked that the Cal Poly team had a lot of students and that they were doing it for a school project."

In early January, TLC notified the team they were accepted. They were

one of 24 teams chosen from 600 applicants.

"I thought it was a good chance to put our engineering classes to work," said Michael Stephani, team member and mechanical engineering senior. "Plus, it was with my friends, so we had a good time doing it."

The group had seven weeks to finish the project.

"(Stephani's) roommates had to sleep with earplugs in because they were cutting and grinding all night in Mike's garage," Lowe said. "They were lucky the neighbors didn't call the cops on them."

The team spent about \$10,000 producing the robot. Companies in the community donated parts and services, but team members paid at least \$5,000 themselves.

"They ended up putting a lot of their personal money into it," Lowe said. "Everyone had their credit cards maxed out."

The students named the robot "Noll" after Noll Engineering, a financial supporter. The box-shaped machine weighed 210 pounds. It was flush to the ground to prevent tipping, could be raised 4 inches to overcome obstacles, and had a hammer capable of punching holes in concrete.

The team members arrived at ABC studios in Hollywood on March 2 to compete on the show's second episode, but seven weeks of hard work were over within a few minutes of the first stage of competition.

The robot broke down a few feet

into an eight-lap race. Noll spun in circles while its competitor smashed into it. Due to a rule change producers made after the first day of competition, the team could not use their weapons to disable the other robot.

"The worst part was, when we were stuck there everybody said, 'Throw the hammer, throw the hammer,' but we couldn't use the weapons," Stephani said.

The show allotted 30 minutes to fix Noll, but the machine was still inoperable when the time ran out. The students worked feverishly to weld the machine back together, injuring themselves in the process. One student smashed his thumbnail open. One caught his pants on fire. Another cut the pad of his finger and superglued it shut to avoid a trip to the emergency room.

After 45 minutes and a 10-point deduction, the team accepted defeat.

"We put it down on paper right, but it wasn't assembled correctly," Stephani said. "We had an hour of testing before we put it on the track. I was learning to drive the thing while we were in the pits."

The team will reassemble the robot and plans to enter it in competition on "BattleBots" this summer or fall, where they think it will be more successful.

"We built a fighting robot and took it to a race," Dexter said.

The episode of "Robotica" featuring Cal Poly's team will air Wednesday at 9 p.m. on TLC.



COURTESY PHOTO

Mechanical engineering senior Jed Saunders, center, examines the robot, named Noll, that the team entered in The Learning Channel's "Robotica" competition. Cal Poly's team will be on "Robotica" Wednesday at 9 p.m. on TLC.



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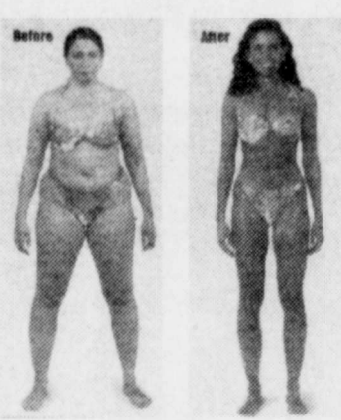
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Community finds healing after tragedy

Most people have somewhere that is home to them. Somewhere that they can go home and feel at home, at ease with who they are and where they are in life. Home is a place where you keep your heart and your memories, and that you know will always be there. So what happens when you go home and suddenly home isn't there anymore? What would you do if your home burned down? Where would you go? Do you have neighbors that would take you in? Friends? Relatives? How would you get there? How would you replace everything you have lost? Sure, insurance might cover some or all of the possessions you lost, but what about that sense of security you felt when you got home? Could insurance replace that? What would you do?

Easter morning at 7:45 a.m. found me in the car on the way to church. I was about a mile from the church when I realized that a strange cloud I had noticed in the distance was in fact smoke. My first thought was, "How sad, someone's house is on fire on Easter."

Kari Savala

As I got closer, I realized that it looked close to my church, Mt. Carmel Lutheran. Then I thought, "Gosh, it looks like it's coming from the Methodist church" (which is right next door to Mt. Carmel). I turned the corner and saw the fire. It was the Methodist church.

It was a scene straight from a movie. The fire truck had its ladder all the way up, and it was spraying water from the top. All that was left was the flaming, smoking rafters of the church – it looked like a bomb had hit. At 12:30, when I left church, it was still smoldering. I wish I knew how the fire started, but the online version of Monday's "Tribune" doesn't say anything about the fire, surprisingly enough.

So where am I going with this? The point of this column isn't just about the church burning down, it's about the loss of a home, and the gathering together of a community to begin the healing process. Yes, it is just a building, and people don't worship a building, they worship God. And Sunday was a poignant reminder that we all worship the same God. The people from the Methodist church came down the hill, and we all shared the 11 a.m. service together – four pastors, five microphones, and a lot of people. There were tears, and there were a few laughs (Who gets the offering money?). All in all, it was a wonderful, healing service. That is what community is all about – it's about sharing, it's about caring, and it's about healing when the pain is greatest.

Christians believe that Easter is a day to celebrate new life and the resurrection of Christ, a renewal of the covenant that God made with us. For us, it was a day to celebrate not only our belief of life renewed, but also a sense of community renewed, a community coming together in the face of tragedy.

As the Methodist pastor explained in his sermon, "Easter is when God comes into our lives to bring us a new future ... We're going to let that building go and build a new one because we are a people of redemption." Redemption and healing aren't just personal, they're something for everyone to participate in and share. I'm proud to be a member of a community that is willing to step up to the plate and offer support to people who need it. I think that more people today need to take this to heart – it's not just about religion, it's about following the golden rule. Will you do unto someone else as you would hope they would do unto you? I hope so. Easter isn't just one day a year, it can be every day of the year. Happy Easter, everyone.

Kari Savala is an English senior.

KKK futhers own odious image



After all the fuss in March over the Missouri Ku Klux Klan being allowed to participate in the Adopt-A-Highway program, the KKK ended up being kicked out for not picking up a single piece of trash.

That's right, the members of the KKK couldn't even bring themselves to hold

Commentary

up their end of the deal. In neglecting to pick trash up off of a half-mile stretch of highway, they have made a mockery not only of their own beliefs, but also of the First Amendment that protected them and their right to organize hate in the first place.

"The Constitution, as originally written and intended, is the finest system of government ever conceived by man." This is a direct quote from the official Web site of the American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. Most people won't find it hard to believe that the KKK would do such a thing as profess allegiance to a body of government and then turn around and stab that body in the back repeatedly. However, those people might have difficulty believing that members of the KKK honestly believe that they are the "good Christians" and "believers in love, not hatred," which they proclaim to be in their official mission statement on their Web site.

Apparently most, if not all, of the members of the KKK are illiterate.

Nothing demonstrates love more than placing the sign of a white power organization on one of the segments of highway where black children are bused to school. Nothing shows allegiance to the Constitution more than using the First Amendment as a defense for evil in one of its most vile forms.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances." This is the exact text of the First Amendment to the Constitution that defended the Ku Klux Klan's apparent publicity stunt. The founding fathers are probably spinning in their graves knowing that the amendment they wrote would later be used as justification

to harass black children on their way to school.

In being kicked out of the Adopt-A-Highway program, the only thing the members of the KKK have accomplished is making themselves appear more offensive to the general public than they ever have before. Most people probably didn't even think that was possible.

▼ *"Maybe the goal of the KKK is to accumulate some sort of laundry list of negative traits ..."*

Maybe the goal of the KKK is to accumulate some sort of laundry list of negative traits, and adding "deadbeats who can't even pick up trash" is

just one stop on the way to complete atrocity.

Aside from being morally deficient, uneducated and hypocritical, I honestly don't know what other negative traits the organization can lay claim to.

Kat DeBakker is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

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EDITORIAL (805) 756-1796
ADVERTISING (805) 756-1143
FAX (805) 756-6784
editor@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu

Adam Jarman **editor in chief**
Kirsten Orsini-Meinhard **managing editor**
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"Sun poisoning? Harden up!"

Walk Bike Zone represents forward motion

As I walked through campus the other day, I was passed by a speedy student on a bike. I didn't really think about it until later when I first

Commentary

noticed the new "Walk Bike Zone" signs that seemed to be everywhere.

I laughed to myself as I wondered who would pay attention to the signs. But then, I started wondering why we had to walk our bikes at all. I only ride my bike to school occasionally, but after seeing all those signs, I realized that I wanted to ride my bike wherever I wanted. I decided to look into the issue, but what I found surprised me.

The Walk Bike Zone went into effect April 2. At first, I considered it to be another unnecessary restric-

tion of my freedoms around campus, but I soon grasped that it was actually an extension of these freedoms. The Walk Bike Zone actually replaces the NO Bike Zone previously in effect in these areas.

Debby Anderson, Cal Poly's Commuter and Access Services coordinator, said the Walk Bike Zone was implemented to encourage the use of bikes in the heart of campus — just not for riding.

Because of the previous No Bike Zone, there were very few bike racks available in the middle of campus. Many students were forced to lock up their bikes in areas far from their classes. As a result, some students improvised and locked up their bikes in illegal areas.

Anderson said there was one area in particular where this happened quite frequently. Unfortunately, this area included a wheelchair ramp that was being obstructed by the numerous bikes locked to the handrail. This was obviously a problem.

But instead of continuing to give students tickets for this violation, University Police and Commuter and Access Services decided to change things around a bit.

With the Walk Bike Zone, there are now more bike racks available in the middle of campus, so students can take their bikes closer to their classes. Although I never got creative by locking my bike to a tree or phone booth, I did hate having to lock it up at a bike rack far from my

class, especially if I was on campus at night.

When I think back to that day when the speedy biker passed me, I realized that having the freedom to ride on campus would be nice, but it's not realistic yet. I know that if we were allotted this liberty, most of us would be responsible riders. However, there will always be those people who would put the rest of us in jeopardy to go top speed down every hill and jump off every curb. I'd rather not dodge these people in an attempt to stay safe just walking to class.

As Anderson pointed out, with the high number of people walking, it just isn't conducive to let students ride bikes in the same area — at least not yet.

I firmly believe that, with the help of some signs, painted lines and tickets for reckless riding, Cal Poly could eventually be a campus where bikers and walkers can co-exist peacefully.

But until then, let's appreciate the Walk Bike Zone for the new bike racks. This means fewer scavenger hunts to find our bikes after class and fewer bikes chained to the pay phone we need to use.

Cal Poly is just like any other institution. To get the freedoms we really want, we have to take it step by step and appreciate the little victories along the way.

Janelle Foskett is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.



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Letter to the editor

Don't drink and drive Editor,

As a working student, paying my own way through school, I get to experience college in an entirely different way than those whose parents are paying for most of their education. I am fully aware that I come into contact with people, most of whom our student

body will not meet, and I usually enjoy this unique part of my life.

However, over this last weekend, the fact that I work off campus as a waiter in a small restaurant with a reputation for good food brought me into contact with a number of people who I hope I never have to meet again.

Thursday evening, I served dinner

to a man whose daughter and a number of her friends had been hit by a drunk driver near Cambria. He wasn't very hungry. He really just wanted something to drink and someone to talk to. Over the next half-hour, I listened to a man, whose life had been crushed, tell me how his daughter's face was in the process of being sown back together at the hospital up the road. He told me that she was in surgery as we spoke and that the doctors had suggested he get something to eat at our restaurant while he waited.

"It's good food," they had promised. And so there he was, at the counter of a short-order restaurant, telling me (a complete stranger) about this horrible thing that had happened to his world. He was all alone. He wasn't from San Luis Obispo County. His daughter and friends weren't local either. She had just been camping up near Cambria over spring break, and he had been working when he got a phone call that his child had been seriously injured in a car accident involving a drunk driver.

When he got the call, like any good father would, he left everything immediately to be by his daughter's side. He was the first to arrive. The family members of his daughter's friends were on their way. He was dealing with this incredible crisis, and the only people he had to talk to were a couple of waiters and a busboy. When he left that evening, he told us that he was heading to the hospital, but that he'd be back once the other families arrived.

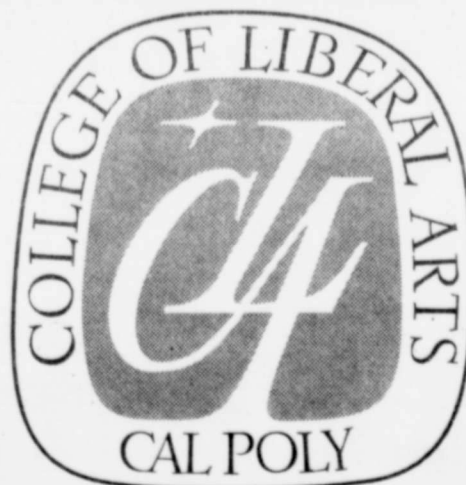
On Friday morning, I was working the breakfast shift when the same man from the night before and five other parents walked into my restaurant to get something to eat. I was sure he recognized me, but I didn't know whether it would be appropriate to ask him how his daughter (and her friends) were doing. Instead, I tried to serve them to the best of my ability and pretend that this was just another table. After their meal, another parent came up and thanked me. He said that they were all on their way back to the hospital. I took the opportunity to ask about everyone who had been in the accident. He said that the daughter of the man who I had served the night before was on her way into a second surgery and that her boyfriend would probably lose his legs if he lived. He had fluid putting pressure on his brain. He had not shown any signs of consciousness.

You may never meet anyone who has been affected this dramatically by a person's decision to drive while drunk. What I hope you take away from this letter is that they do exist. You can't fix mistakes this big. Please don't cause this kind of pain and destruction in other people's lives.

Chris Sell is a political science senior.

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BASEBALL

continued from page 8

Fresno State again.

"There's always a revenge factor," Martinez said. "You never want to drop two to a team you're only going to play twice during the year."

The Mustangs' offense hasn't been playing poorly, Martinez said. Instead, they've been the victims of circumstance.

"It hurts us when we have runners on second and third with nobody out and we end up lining into a double play or hit a line drive right back to

the pitcher," he said.

The Mustangs hope that Sunday's offensive outburst will be a preview of things to come. The team is keeping the two losses in perspective.

"The fact that we lost two in a row and then came back and spanked them in the third game pretty much sums it up," said senior right fielder Phil Thompson. "Our offense had a two-game funk; nobody's hard pressed. Every team has it ups and downs and right now this is a down time for us. Nobody is thinking, 'Oh, crap, we're not as good as we thought.'"

Tonight's game begins at 5 p.m. at Baggett Stadium.

SOFTBALL

continued from page 8

This is Blankenbecker's third year pitching for the Mustangs. Every year, she gets more and more starts and improves her statistics. As of Monday morning, Blankenbecker has pitched 115.1 innings for the Mustangs. The next closest pitcher has 66.1 innings.

Boyer said Blankenbecker's improvements come from her personal desire to get better.

"What sets Terra apart (from other players) is her own decision to continually get better," Boyer said. "She wants the team to do well."

Catcher Carrie Schubert agreed that this is Blankenbecker's best season yet.

"She's doing very well," Schubert said. "She continues to do better, which helps us out."

Incidentally, Schubert and Blankenbecker, catcher and pitcher, are the closest friends of everyone on the team.

"(Being best friends) helps us work together," Schubert said. "It helps her trust me."

The Mustangs were swept in a disappointing outing this past weekend against Cal State Northridge. Blankenbecker pitched 4.1 innings and gave up seven hits in Friday's 3-0 loss, dropping her record to 9-9 and bringing her ERA up to 1.64.

Boyer, who has coached the Mustangs for 13 years, said that despite Blankenbecker's even temper, she does not like to lose.

Even with the losses, Blankenbecker wouldn't give up the sport for anything.

"Except for my roommate, all my best friends are on the team," she said. "The girls on the team are awesome. It's the best team I've ever been on. We have a great time, win or lose."

Even though Blankenbecker doesn't know what her future holds, Boyer knows she'll do well.

"Terra is very ambitious," Boyer said. "She can do anything she puts her mind to. She'll have several job offers when she graduates."

Want to write a sports column for Mustang Daily?

E-mail Sports Editor Matt Sterling at
mrsterli@calpoly.edu



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Cal Poly softball's dependable arm

By Michelle Hatfield
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

Whether her last game was a complete game no-hitter or a nail-biting loss, Cal Poly softball pitcher Terra Blankenbecler comes to play every time she steps onto the mound.

"Overall, she's been very consistent this year," said head coach Lisa Boyer. "Terra bounces back quickly. She's not angry if she doesn't complete a game. If it's what's best for the team, she's fine with that."

Blankenbecler, a business junior, had two tremendous games against UC Santa Barbara April 7 and 8 when she pitched two shutouts to improve to 9-8 on the season.

She also came away with a win over nationally ranked Oregon State March 9. Boyer said that the 3-2 win was especially big since it was against a ranked team.

Blankenbecler's 2001 Stats

| ERA | W-L | IP | SO | CG |
|------|-----|-------|----|----|
| 1.64 | 9-9 | 115.1 | 69 | 12 |

Blankenbecler was honored last week by being named Big West Co-Pitcher of the Week for the week ending April 8.

The 21-year-old said the secret to her success is her determination throughout the off season to work out and get better.

"During the off season, I worked hard," Blankenbecler said. "It just doesn't come naturally to me. I saw my pitching coach twice a week."

Blankenbecler, originally from Salinas, first got into softball because she thought she would enjoy it.

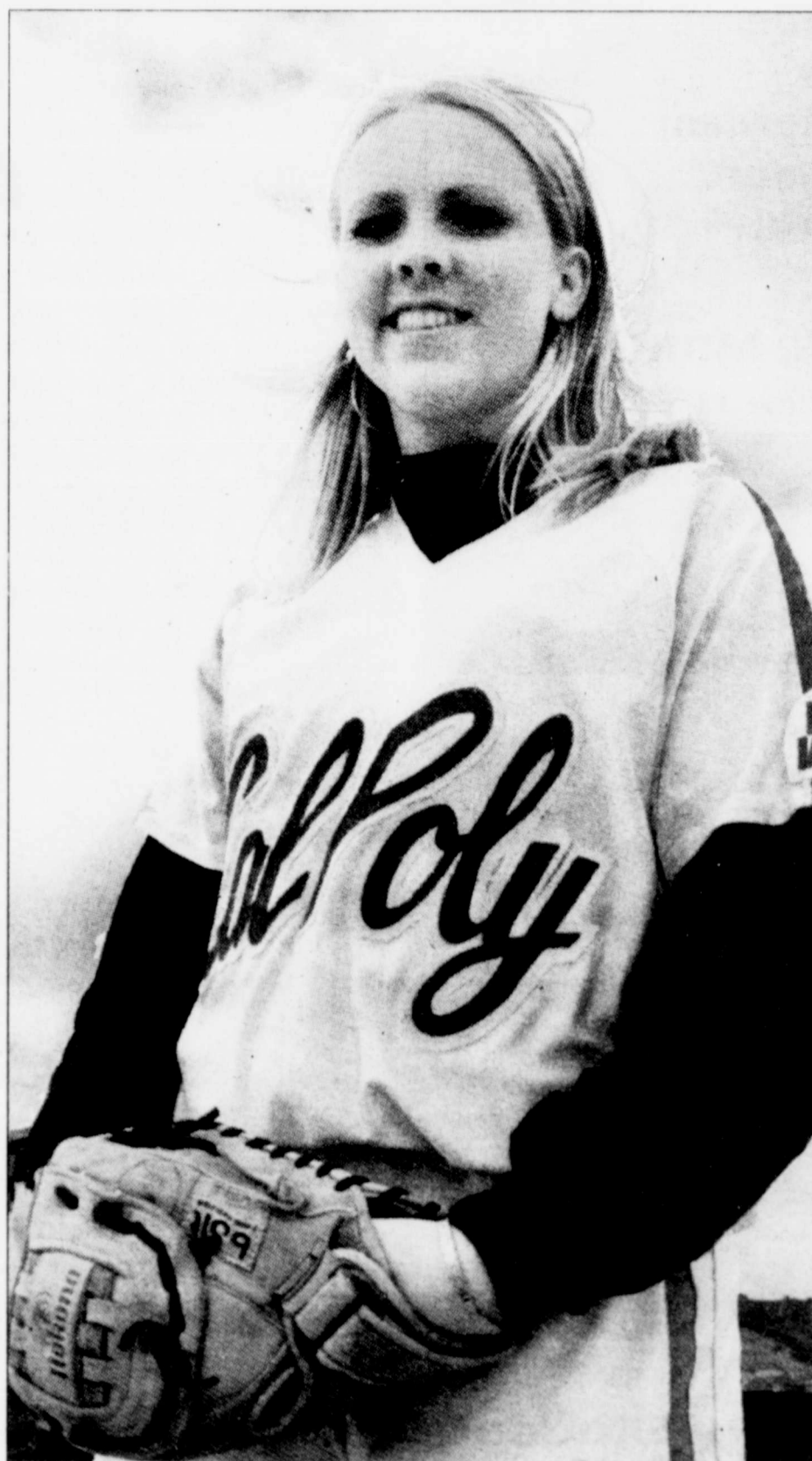
"I thought it would be fun," she said. "My friend went out and played. Once I got started, I realized that I liked it. And I got good. When you're good at something, it's fun."

At North Monterey County High School, Blankenbecler played three years of varsity softball, but began pitching when she was in fifth grade. She played Little League softball starting in fifth grade and began playing in a travel softball league when she was 15.

Once it was time to pick a college, Blankenbecler looked at Colorado State, University of Massachusetts and Cal Poly. She said she wanted to stay in California.

"I knew that I wanted to play softball," Blankenbecler said. "I also wanted to stay in the state. Knowing that Cal Poly was building a new stadium was also a plus."

see SOFTBALL, page 7



COLLIN HESTER/MUSTANG DAILY

Terra Blankenbecler has pitched six shutouts and 12 complete games in 22 appearances for the softball team this season.

Mustangs hope for revenge

Second meeting for Cal Poly, Fresno State

By Ryan Ballard
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The Cal Poly baseball team was lucky to have anti-lock brakes as it managed to stop its skid this weekend before ending up in a fiery crash.

The Mustangs struggled at the plate the first two games of its series this weekend with UC Riverside, but managed to get its offense and pitching going in the last game, salvaging the series with a 9-5 win, avoiding a sweep.

With the heart of the Big West schedule looming in the near future, the team must quickly regroup tonight against non-conference opponent Fresno State.

► Fresno State beat Cal Poly 8-5 on March 27.

The Bulldogs (28-16) defeated the Mustangs (23-14) by a score of 8-5 in the previous meeting on March 27.

Even with the game being non-conference, it still is important to the Mustangs' chances of making the NCAA Championships, said head coach Ritch Price.

"This is one of the more important Tuesday games we'll play this season," Price said. "The fact that they beat us the first time we played, and if they beat us again, they'll be 2-0 against us. If we get in a situation where it's us and them at the end of the season and it's down to five teams on the West Coast, they'll have the advantage."

Junior Greg Bochy will take the hill for the Mustangs. Bochy is 3-1 this year, including two consecutive wins over Bethany College.

Not all was bad for the Mustangs against Riverside. Junior third baseman Chris Martinez had an outstanding weekend at the plate. Martinez was 6 for 7, for a .857 batting average and had a .889 on-base percentage. Martinez looks forward to playing

see BASEBALL, page 7

Kings need to prove crucial win wasn't a fluke

EL SEGUNDO (AP) — The Los Angeles Kings asserted themselves in time to win a crucial game against the Detroit Red Wings. Now they have to prove their passion wasn't a one-shot deal.

"Isn't that how you're supposed to play?" Kings coach Andy Murray said Monday after a light workout at their suburban practice facility. "That's why the Red Wings are so good. They maintain a standard."

The Kings revived their first-round playoff hopes with a 2-1 victory Sunday night, although they trail the best-of-seven series 2-1. Game 4 is

Wednesday night at Staples Center.

Murray said the Kings got "steam-rolled" in the series' first two games in Detroit, including a 4-0 loss in Game 2. Both times the Red Wings jumped on the Kings in the first five minutes, and Los Angeles failed to regain the momentum.

Sunday night, in front of 18,478 — the largest to see a hockey game in California — the

Kings took their first lead of the series on a second-period goal by Luc Robitaille.

▼ "One thing we talked about was not having regrets. The way we were playing, we were going to have regrets."

Andy Murray
Los Angeles Kings coach

Murray counted only five Kings who played well in the first two

games, compared to the majority that he believes contributed Sunday. A feeling of desperation combined with discussion before the game had the desired effect.

"One thing we talked about was not having regrets. The way we were playing, we were going to have regrets," Murray said. "There's more left in the series. Our goal is to have a sixth game in LA."

That could happen Monday night, but only if the Kings win Wednesday or take Game 5 in Detroit on Saturday.

| SPORTSBAR | Sports Trivia | Results | | Schedule |
|-----------|---|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| | Yesterday's Answer: | BASEBALL | | TODAY |
| | The Olympic discus weighs 4 pounds, 6.5 ounces. | Cal Poly 2 | Cal Poly 0 | • Baseball vs. Fresno State |
| | Congratulations Eric Houglund! | UC Riverside 5 | Cal State Northridge 3 | • at Baggett Stadium • 5 p.m. |
| | Today's Question: | Cal Poly 4 | Cal Poly 2 | • Men's tennis vs. UC Santa Barbara |
| | Who has played in the most NBA games? | UC Riverside 8 | Cal State Northridge 5 | • at UCSB • 2 p.m. |
| | | Cal Poly 9 | Cal Poly 0 | THURSDAY |
| | | UC Riverside 5 | Cal State Northridge 2 | • Baseball vs. University of Pacific |
| | | MEN'S TENNIS | WOMEN'S TENNIS | • at Pacific • 7 p.m. |
| | | San Jose State 5 | San Jose State 0 | • Softball vs. San Jose State |
| | | Cal Poly 2 | Cal Poly 7 | • at Bob Janssen Field • 6 p.m. / 8 p.m. |
| | | | | FRIDAY |
| | | | | • Baseball vs. University of Pacific |
| | | | | • at Pacific • noon |
| | | | | • Track and field at Long Beach, Mt. Sac Relays |
| | | | | • at both locations • all day |

Please submit sports trivia answer to: mrsterli@calpoly.edu
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